

Cycle City: Third Army conducts first Motorcycle Safety Day

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At first glance, one would have thought they were at a major biker's convention. Motorcycles were lined up from one end of the parking lot to the other. Riders stood amongst their rides, sharing stories or showing off their riding gear. The major difference was that instead of bleached jeans and leather jackets, most of these riders were in an Army uniform.

The riders came out for Third Army/U.S. Army Central's first motorcycle safety day held March 27 at Third Army headquarters.

The event started at 9 a.m. and continued until 1 p.m. The purpose was to increase overall motorcycle safety awareness, said Sgt. Brandon P. Gerald, motorcycle safety NCO for Third Army Special Troops Battalion.

"The riding season is coming up and we wanted to have our riders meet each other as well as give them safety information," said Gerald. Improving motorcycle awareness was important, specifically, ensuring riders check their motorcycles before they hit the road, he continued.

The event had a positive turnout with officers, enlisted Soldiers and civilians bringing all types of motorcycles in to showcase. There were also safety exhibits showcasing proper tire tread, safety gear and even a wrecked motorcycle to emphasize what can happen if riders are not careful on the road. The bikers then had their motorcycles inspected and then participated in a barbecue held by the STB.

The safety day event was coordinated the bikers of Third Army, led by Gerald, and the barbecue was an initiative by the STB Soldiers in an effort to boost unit morale, said Maj. Rochelle Green, STB operations officer.

This event will be the first of several safety events that Third Army will conduct.

There are plans for a Spring Safety Week that will have another motorcycle safety day, said Green.

"This event was to prepare the riders for the spring," she added.

"Now we have to get them ready for the summer."



Photo by Sgt. Carlos M. Bugar II

Sgt. Marcus Johnson, G-4, shows Sgt. 1st Class William Langley, G-6, his custom motorcycle jacket at the Motorcycle Safety Day. Officers, NCOs, and civilians from Third Army participated in this event.

(For more information on motorcycles, visit the USACRC Web site at <https://crc.army.mil/mmp/index.asp>)